

TO: Outreach Partners and Interested Parties

FROM: *Prescription Advantage*

Date: November 1, 2007

BULLETIN

This bulletin is one in a series of routine updates regarding Prescription Advantage. These notices are designed to inform a broad network of outreach partners and other interested parties about Plan updates affecting both current and future Plan members.

Part D Plan Reassignment for United Health Care Members in 2008

In 2008, United Health Care (UHC) will not offer a Medicare Part D plan that has a monthly premium below the \$29.17 regional benchmark. As a result, Prescription Advantage i s working with UHC to enroll members that are currently enrolled in UHC's basic plans <u>and</u> receive assistance paying their Part D premium from Prescription Advantage and/ or Medicare Extra Help, in UHC's lowest cost basic drug plan, the AARP MedicareRx Plan Saver (plan ID# S5921-181) effective January 1, 2008. Members enrolled in UHC's enhanced plans will not be reassigned.

With AARP MedicareRx Plan Saver, there are no co-payment differences and the formulary will not be affected by this change. Although this is the UHC plan with the lowest monthly premium, members will be charged an additional premium of \$1.83.

<u>Please note:</u> Members with subsidized premiums are in Prescription Advantage membership categories S0 – S3.

The attached letter will be mailed later this week to members affected by this change.



November 2007

Dear Prescription Advantage Member:

This is important information about your prescription drug coverage and its costs. United Health Care may have recently notified you of changes in its drug plans for the year 2008. Prescription Advantage wants you to know that there is **new information about a change to your plan** that will affect the assistance you receive paying your monthly plan premiums.

You currently receive Medicare Drug Plan premium assistance from Prescription Advantage and/or Medicare Extra Help. However, as of January 1, 2008, United Health Care will no longer offer a plan with a premium less than or equal to the amount of this assistance. This means that beginning January 1, 2008 you will be required to pay a greater portion of your monthly Medicare Drug Plan premium.

Prescription Advantage is working with United Healthcare to enroll you in the AARP MedicareRx Plan Saver (plan ID# S5921-181) effective January 1, 2008. This is the United Health Care plan with the lowest monthly premium. Prescription Advantage used its legal authority, under the laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, to make this change in order to reduce the additional premium our members would pay. The list of prescription drugs covered by your plan will not be affected by this change.

If you previously had your entire premium covered by Prescription Adva ntage and/or Medicare Extra Help, with AARP MedicareRx Plan Saver, you will be required to pay \$1.83 toward your monthly premium in 2008. If you previously paid \$20.00 toward your monthly premium, with AARP MedicareRx Plan Saver, you will be required to pay \$21.83 in 2008.

If this is the option you want, you do not need to take any further action to secure your 2008 enrollment. If you wish to change your Medicare Part D drug plan for 2008, Medicare will have an Open Enrollment from November 15, 2007 through December 31, 2007, and you may change plans at that time. In early November, Prescription Advantage will send you information about all of your 2008 plan options.

Please keep in mind that if you select a plan with a premium that is more than the amount Prescription Advantage covers, you will be required to pay a portion of the monthly premium.

If you have any questions regarding your benefits or if you believe this information is not correct, please contact Prescription Advantage Customer Service at the number listed below.

If you need help selecting a Medicare drug plan, please contact the following organizations for assistance:

❖ <u>SHINE</u> - (Serving the Health Information Needs of Elders) − Individual health insurance counseling available to all Medicare beneficiaries.

1-800-AGE-INFO (1-800-243-4636), press 2 or TTY (toll free) 1-800-872-0166 www.mass.gov/elders

❖ <u>MassMedLine</u> - A resource for prescription drug information and assistance. Pharmacists are available to assist you.

1-866-633-1617

TTY/TDD users should ask the operator to call the MassMedLine toll -free number www.massmedline.com

❖ Medicare - For general assistance with the Medicare Part D benefits and the Medicare drug plans. Please look for the *Medicare and You* handbook that was sent to you in October. Contact Medicare if you did not receive it.

1-800-MEDICARE

TTY (toll free) 1-877-486-2048

www.medicare.gov

For more information regarding your Prescription Advantage benefit, please contact Prescription Advantage Customer Service at 1-800-AGE-INFO (1-800-243-4636) or TTY for the deaf and hard of hearing at 1-877-610-0241.

Sincerely, Prescription Advantage